

8 February 1960

Professor Chauncey D. Leake  
Hamilton Hall  
Ohio State University  
Columbus 10, Ohio

Dear Chauncey:

I am happy to see your letter, now that I have come back to the lab. Even such a simple matter as staying out on a ledge on the face of a cliff for one night seems to be a strain - my wife was, however, much more affected by worry than I was by exposure.

I had with me at the ranch a rough draft of a manuscript on a theory of general anesthesia, which I had hoped to get into shape for publication. Now I shall soon get back to work on this problem, and I have already initiated some experimental work.

My theory is quite a detailed one. It involves the action of the anesthetic agent in stabilizing microcrystalline aggregates of water molecules and other molecules. It has occurred to me that you may know about some work on the theory of general anesthesia that has escaped my attention, and I am accordingly writing to ask you to tell me, and in particular to send me reprints of your own published papers in this field, if they are still available. Do you know of any good theoretical work on general anesthesia that has been published during the last ten years, since the Paris Colloquium?

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Linus Pauling:w